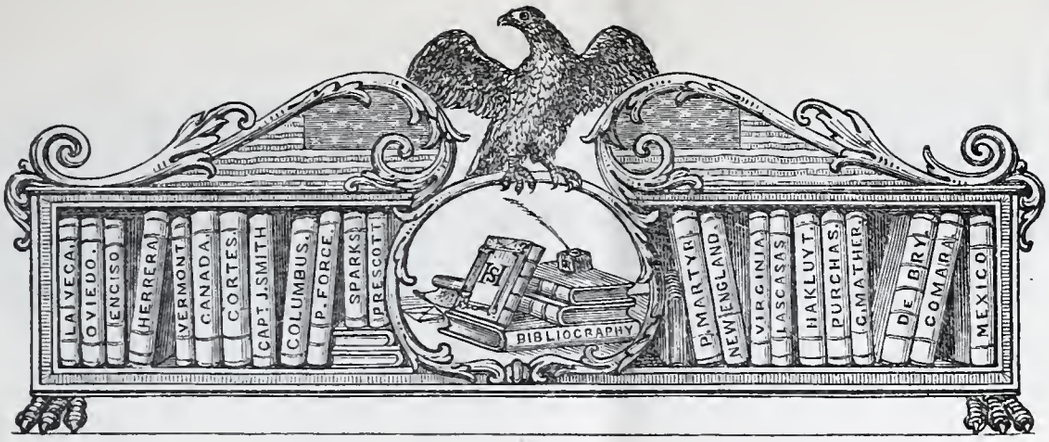


6

CATALOGUE OF THE

HISTORICAL AND BIBLIOGRAPHICAL WORKS OF

MR HENRY STEVENS

W 10-1886

OF VERMONT

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN'S

LIFE AND WRITINGS

A Bibliographical Essay on the Stevens' Collection of Books and Manuscripts relating to Doctor Franklin. London 1881. (Imp. 8° 10*s* 6*d*)

Contains a History of the Franklin Collection sold to the State Department at Washington, and a list of 200 printed Books of and relating to Franklin. Privately printed. 36 pp. Imperial 8vo on fine handmade paper, illustrated with five steel portraits and a facsimile of Franklin's celebrated letter to Strahan. Cloth extra uncut.

Mr Stevens has still on hand a number of books relating to Franklin, being duplicates from the "Franklin Collection" and acquisitions since its sale, which it is proposed to catalogue shortly for sale.

II

HISTORICAL NUGGETS.

BIBLIOTHECA AMERICANA, or a Descriptive Account of my Collection of rare Books relating to America. London. 1862.

(2 vols cloth, fscp. 8° 30*s*)

THIS work, of which only a few copies remain for sale, printed in the best style of the Chiswick Press, comprises nearly 3000 titles (alphabetically arranged) of rare books relating to America, MOST CAREFULLY GIVEN IN FULL, WITH THE COLLATION and price of each work. It is intended as far as it goes to be a manual for collectors of this class of books, and to ensure the greatest possible accuracy the proof-sheets are read with the books themselves.

A SECOND SERIES

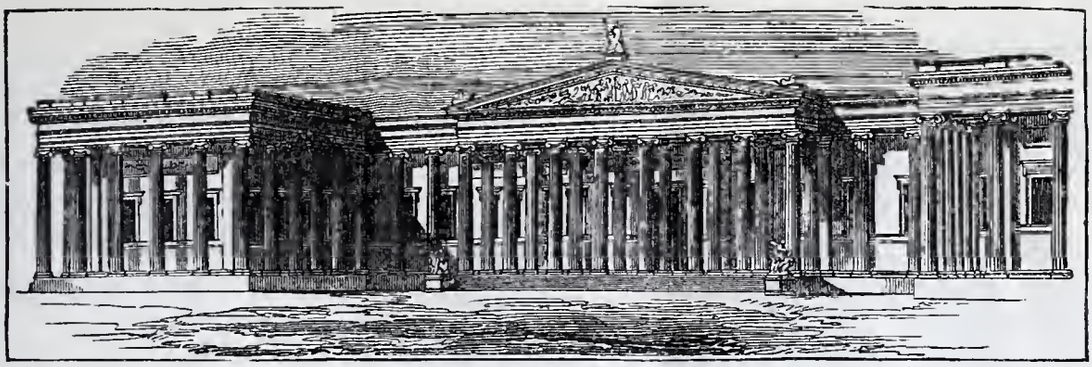
Of this Catalogue, under the same Title of "HISTORICAL NUGGETS," commencing with Volume 3, paged and numbered on continuously and printed uniformly, is now in hand, and letter A, over 600 titles, in the press. It will be edited in the same careful manner, but interspersed with descriptive, bibliographical, historical, geographical and biographical notes.

Each volume will contain about 400 pages, but the work will be published in paper-covered parts of varying thickness, from time to time as rapidly as possible, and issued to subscribers either in parts at the rate of 10*s* 6*d* per volume post free payable in advance, or 10*s* 6*d* per volume bound in cloth, payable on completion of each volume.

THE BOOKS DESCRIBED ARE ALL IN STOCK FOR SALE.

Subscribers to the New Series will have the option of taking the volumes of the Old Series at the same rate of 10*s* 6*d* per volume, as long as any remain in print. Intending subscribers are invited to send in their names at once, but remittances may be delayed until the publication of the first part.

It is estimated that the titles and collations of the books now in stock will form about eight volumes (Vols iii to x) or from ten to twelve thousand numbers, and it is hoped that sufficient encouragement will be given to warrant the expense of carrying the work through without curtailment.



III

BRITISH MUSEUM CATALOGUES. 1 A Catalogue of American Books in the Library of the British Museum, Christmas, 1856, 650 *pp.* 2 A Catalogue of Mexican and other Spanish American and West India Books in the Library of the British Museum, Christmas, 1856, 64 *pp.* 3 A Catalogue of Canadian and other British North American Books in the Library of the British Museum, Christmas, 1856, 10 *pp.* 4 A Catalogue of American Maps in the Library of the British Museum, Christmas, 1856, 14 *pp.* *London, printed by Charles Whittingham, Chiswick Press*, 1866. Cloth. (8° 16*s*)

These four Catalogues, bound in one volume, comprising about 750 large 8vo pages in double columns, uniform with the "Bibliotheca Grenvilliana," describing about 20,000 volumes, were printed by Whittingham on fine toned paper, in the best style of the Chiswick Press. At the beginning are inserted the rules for Cataloguing Books, Maps, Music, &c., adopted in the British Museum, first printed in 1842, but now revised, with additions, alterations and amendments to 1862. There is also added a detailed description of the classification of books on the shelves in the British Museum. These Catalogues contain all the American Books that had got into the British Museum Library to the beginning of 1857. The four volumes in one were priced at 25*s*, but never regularly published.

IV

THE BIBLES IN THE CAXTON EXHIBITION

MDCCC LXXVII

OR a bibliographical description of nearly one thousand representative Bibles in various languages chronologically arranged from the first Bible printed by Gutenberg in 1450-1456 to the last Bible printed at the Oxford University Press the 30th June 1877 With an Introduction on the History of Printing as illustrated by the printed Bible from 1450 to 1877 in which is told for the first time the true history and mystery of the Coverdale Bible of 1535 Together with BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES AND COLLATIONS of many rare Bibles in various languages and divers versions printed during the last four centuries Special edition revised and carefully corrected with additions Flavoured with a squeeze of the Saturday Review's homily on Bibles London 1878. Cloth uncut. (8° 7*s* 6*d*)

LARGE PAPER EDITION on Whatman's finest handmade paper, Super royal 8° bound in half roan uncut, 15*s*, or bound in red morocco extra by Bedford, very handsome, only 10 so done, £4 4*s*.

This large paper edition, bound by Bedford, having been produced under Mr Stevens's personal direction, is put forth as his model of what the manufacture of such a book should be. (*Vide* "Who Spoils our new English Books," page 10.)

V

CARTA del señor don frey BARTOLOME de LAS CASAS al Illustre y Muy Magnifico señor don Mercurino Arborio de Gattinari Chancellor de S. Mag. el rey don Carlos en q̃ suplica a s. s. q̃ se le conceda la provincia del çenu q̃ se cuente entre la tĩra q̃ se le señalare pa poner remedio a los agravios de los yndios en la tĩra firme. Año de Mdxx. 11 *pp. in* **black letter**, *roan gilt lettered. Impressa en Londres, en casa de Carlos Whittingham a costa de Enrique Estevans*, 24 *junio* 1854 (4° 10*s* 6*d*)

Las Casas, who had taken great interest in the welfare and christianizing of the Indians, had been promised an extensive grant of land on the coast of Terra Firma, between Darien and Trinidad, for the purpose of founding a colony for improving and civilizing the natives. In this important and long autograph letter he repeats his request to Charles the Fifth through his Chancellor, and urges his benevolent scheme. It was printed in 1854 from the original autograph manuscript then in the possession of Mr Stevens. In the epistle dedicatory to Arthur Helps, Esq., a full account of the subject of the letter is given in English.

VI

CARTA de don frey Bartolõe de las CASAS Obispo de Chiapa a los Muy Rev. y Charissimos Padres del capitulo provincial de Guatimala, y del de Chiapa, mostrando su parecer sobre de q̃ no se vendiesen los repartimientos o encomiendas de los yndios. Año de Mdliv. **black letter**, 21 *pp. roan. Impressa en Londres; en casa de Carlos Whittingham a costa de Enrique Estevans*, 24 *Setembre* 1854 (4° 10*s* 6*d*)

Edited by Henry Stevens, of Vermont, in 1854, and beautifully printed at the Chiswick Press in **black letter**, uniform with Las Casas' tracts of 1552, from the original unpublished manuscript then in his possession. The MS. is not dated, but was probably written in 1554. Dedicated to Sir Frederick Madden.

VII

CARTA de amonestaciõ del obp̃o de Chiapa don fray BARTOLOME de las CASAS a los Muy M. Señores presidẽte y oydores de la real audiencia q̃ residen en la ciudad de Grãs-a-dios, tocante a la libertad y jurisdiçion ecclĩca y execucion dlla y a la libertad y remedios dlas injusticias y agravios d los yndios de su obp̃ado. Año de Mdxlv. 10 *pp.* **black letter**, *roan. Fue impressa en Londres; en casa de C. Whittingham a costa de Enrique Estevans*, 24 *junio* 1854 (4° 10*s* 6*d*)

This important letter, printed from the original autograph manuscript in the possession of Mr Henry Stevens, never before printed, is dated the 22 of October, 1545. In the long epistle dedicatory to PETER FORCE of Washington a full abstract of the letter is given in English.

VIII

CARTA de Hernando Cortes, Marques del Valle a S. C. C. Mag^{d} el rey don Carlos Quinto Mostrandole su paresçer acerca de los repartimientos de los yndios, sobre si conviene al seruj del rey q̃ los naturales de la nueba Spaña esten todos en su cabeça, o algunos en los Spañoles pobladores della. Año de Mdxlii, 12 *pp.* **black letter**, *roan. Impressa en Londres por Carlos Whittingham a costa de Enrique Esteuans*, 20 *Oct.* 1854 (4° 10*s* 6*d*)

First privately printed from the original manuscript in 1854, then in the possession of Mr Stevens. It is not dated, but was manifestly written in 1541 or 1542, when the Emperor and Las Casas were getting up the famous "New Laws of the Indies," printed in 1543. The Emperor had asked Cortes's advice respecting the encomiendas and the treatment of the Indians in Mexico. This is the Conqueror's sensible reply. The volume is dedicated in a long epistle in English to Leopold von Ranke, the historian, in which dedication is given an abstract of this important historical document in English.

IX

PARESCER o Determinaciõ de los señores theologos de Salamanca sobre de que no deben ser baptizados los yndios sin examinaciõ estrecha de su voluntad y concepto del dho sacramento. Año de Mdxli. [In Latin.] 14 *pp.* **black letter**, *roan. Impressum Londini apud Carolum Whittingham, impensis Henrici Stevens*, 1854 (4° 10*s* 6*d*)

This important manuscript was edited by Henry Stevens, and privately printed for him at the Chiswick Press in 1854 from the original, then in his possession. It is dated the first of July, 1541. Las Casas and others had complained much of the ill-treatment and slavery of the Indians by the Spaniards in America, until finally Charles V. referred the grand question to the Faculty of the University of Salamanca, whether Indians who had been baptized could be made slaves? This curious document is the official answer, signed by the Dean and all the Faculty. The volume has a long explanatory dedication to Sir Thomas Phillips.

X

MEMORIAL de Don Diego Colon, Uirrey y Almirante de las yndias a S. C. C. Mag^{d} el Rey don Carlos sobre la conversion e conſvaciõ de las gentes de las yndias, en q̃ ofrece con su ꝑsona y hazienda de ayudar ꝑa q̃ aya efecto cierta negociaciõ q̃ dlanť de S. M. se avia puesto por ꝑte del clerigo Casas ꝑa el remedio de la tſra firme. Año de Mdxx. 12 *pp.* **black letter**, *roan. Impressa por Carlos Whittingham en Londres a costa de Enrique Estevans*, 24 *junio*, 1854 (4° 10*s* 6*d*)

Edited, with Epistle Dedicatory of two pages to Dr. Reinhold Pauli, from the original manuscript of the Second Admiral of the Indies, then in the possession of Henry Stevens, and printed at the Chiswick Press. The young King of Spain, Charles, had asked Columbus respecting the benevolent scheme of Las Casas for civilizing and christianizing the Indians of Terra Firma, urging the Admiral's co-operation. This is Don Diego Columbus's favourable reply.

THE six preceding volumes form an interesting series of Spanish historical tracts, printed uniformly in **black letter**, similar to that of the Las Casas tracts of 1552, and of the same sized page. The six volumes are all bound neatly in paste-grained roan of six different colours, with different side gold ornaments, and different fancy end papers. Only 100 copies of each were printed.

XI

HISTORICAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL NOTES on the earliest discoveries in America, 1453-1530. With comments on the earliest charts and maps; the mistakes of the early navigators and the blunders of the geographers; the Asiatic origin of the Atlantic coastline of North America; how it crept in and how it crept out of the maps. The whole illustrated by the Tehuantepec Railway Company's Map of the world on Mercator's projection, and photolithographic facsimiles of many (16) of the earliest maps and charts of America, *cloth extra, only* 100 *copies printed. New Haven & London*, 1869 (8° £1 15*s*)

XII

SEBASTIAN CABOT—John Cabot = O. Endeavored by Henry Stevens, G.M.B. etc. *only a very few copies privately printed, blue cloth. Boston & London, March*, 1870 (16° 7*s* 6*d*)

XIII

The history of the Oxford Caxton Memorial Bible, printed at Oxford and bound in London in twelve consecutive hours, June 30, 1877. 32 *pages, on best hand-made paper, illustrated, blue roan. London, privately printed at the* ELZEVIR PRESS, 1878 (16° 5*s*)

XIV

Photo-Bibliography, or a word on printed Card Catalogues of old rare beautiful and costly books, and how to make them on a co-operative system; And two words on the establishment of a Central Bibliographical Bureau or Clearing-House for Librarians. *Neatly bound in roan. London: privately printed for the Author by C. Whittingham, Chiswick Press*, 1878 (16° 5*s*)

Dedicated to the Librarian of the Future, whose bibliography is to be as exact as his spelling. Extensively illustrated with reduced facsimile titles, and six sample Cards.

XV

The Universal Postal Union and International Copyright. With a Bibliographical Appendage, 66 *pp. cloth. Only* 250 *copies printed. London: printed at the Chiswick Press for the Author*, 1879 (sm. 8° 2*s* 6*d*)

The object of this little book is, in giving a history of the origin and working of the Universal Postal Union, to show that selfish and unnecessary impediments have been thrown in the way of its success by the *United States of America*.

XVI

CATALOGUE of my English Library, collected and described by Henry Stevens, Literary Agent in London of the Smithsonian Institution, *cloth extra. Privately printed by Charles Whittingham, London*, 1853 (fscp 8° 7*s* 6*d*)

This little Manual was prepared in 1853, and printed for private distribution. It contains a list of about 5,700 volumes of Standard English Books, and was designed to aid collectors in the choice of their English Books and Editions. The contents are given of the principal collected works, together with the dates of birth and death of most of the deceased authors.

XVII

AMERICAN BIBLIOGRAPHER, Nos. I and II (*all ever printed*) Jan. and Feb. 1854, *large woodcuts*, vii *and* 96 *pp.* 8*vo. London, C. Whittingham*, 1854 (8° 7*s* 6*d*)

Only 100 copies printed, withdrawn from sale in favour of the NUGGETS.

XVIII

BIBLIOTHECA AMERICANA. A Catalogue of Books relating to the history and literature of America, vi *and* 273 *pp. large paper, cloth, uncut. London, sold by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson, March*, 1861 (8° 5*s*)

This catalogue contains 2,415 lots, with collations and notes, and served as the model of the Maisonneuve elaborate Bibliothèque Américaine.

XIX

BIBLIOTHECA HISTORICA, or a Catalogue of 5,000 Volumes of Books and Manuscripts relating chiefly to the History and Literature of North and South America, among which is included a large proportion of the extraordinary library of the late Henry Stevens, senior, of Barnet, Vermont, Founder and First President of the Vermont Historical Society. Edited, with an Introduction and Notes, xvi *and* 234 *pp. cloth, uncut. Boston, H. O. Houghton & Co. River-Side Press, Cambridge*, 1870 (8° 5*s*)

XX

SCHEDULE of 2000 American Historical Nuggets taken from the Stevens Diggings in September, 1870, and set down in Chronological Order of Printing from 1490 to 1800 [1776] described and recommended as a Supplement to any printed Bibliotheca Americana. *Chiswick Press, London, Oct.* 1, 1870 (folio 7*s* 6*d*)

Privately printed, iv and 20 pages, describing above 1,350 works on America. Blue cloth extra, on thick hand-made paper.

XXI

BIBLIOTHECA GEOGRAPHICA et Historica; or, a Catalogue of a nine days' sale of rare and valuable ancient and modern books, maps, charts, manuscripts, autograph letters, et cetera, illustrative of historical geography and geographical history, etc. very many relating to North and South America, and others to Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, and Oceanica. Collected, used, and described, with an Introductory Essay on Catalogues, and how to make them upon the Stevens system of photobibliography. Part I. [*all ever published.*] *Frontispiece*, iv, 14, *and* 361 *pp. in* 3109 *lots, cloth, uncut. London*, 1872 (8° 5*s*)

XXII

AMERICAN BOOKS with Tails to 'em. A private pocket list of the incomplete or unfinished American periodicals, transactions, memoirs, judicial reports, laws, journals, legislative documents, and other continuations and works in progress supplied to the British Museum and other libraries. By Henry Stevens, G.M.B. F.S.A. etc. *Privately printed, London*, 4 *July*, 1873 (16° 4*s* 6*d*)

Forty pages in pearl type, very beautifully printed by Messrs. Clay on thick hand-made paper, comprising about 2000 titles.

XXIII

Catalogue of Historical Collections. Books and MSS. on America. Part I 1881 (1625 lots). Cloth extra (8° 5*s*). Or with Prices in MS. (12*s* 6*d*). Large handmade paper edition, only 10 so done, cloth extra, 21*s*

This catalogue contains an account of the Franklin Collection sold to the Department of State, and the Dinwiddie Papers now in the Virginia Historical Society Library, together with many historical and bibliographical notes.

XXIV

WHO SPOILS OUR NEW ENGLISH BOOKS

Asked and Answered by HENRY STEVENS of Vermont.

London Henry Newton Stevens 115 St Martins Lane over Against the Church of St Martin in the Fields Christmas MDCCCLXXXIV Published Dec. 23 1884 Handmade paper cloth extra uncut (16° 5*s*)

A FEW OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

"WHO SPOILS OUR NEW ENGLISH BOOKS.—The question is asked and answered by Mr Henry Stevens, of Vermont, in a dainty brochure lately published by Mr H. N. Stevens, of St. Martin's Lane. Mr. Stevens thinks that all who take part in the production of books, from the author downwards, contribute in different ways to the spoiling process, and finally that book buyers and readers are the greatest sinners of all, because by their ignorance or carelessness they encourage the evil ways of the rest. The substance of the little book was read as a paper at the Cambridge Meeting of the Library Association in 1882, and collectors of literary *bric-à-brac* will be glad of a copy of this tiny *édition de luxe*."—*Bookseller*, Feb. 4th, 1885.

"The tiny book in which this interesting question is discussed must be regarded as a volume which has *not* been spoiled; certainly the *printer* is not to be blamed, for he has done his work with exquisite taste; the *paper-maker* has seconded him, the paper being of the best hand-made quality; the *binder* has also shown taste in his department; the *author*, as in this case might have been expected, has had the command of these subordinate forces, and the result is a most quaint and choice little book; it has no head-lines, and no pagination —this is a whim of the author's—perhaps because it contains only forty pages all told. Within the covers which contain those forty pages will be found a list of the sinners who combine together to spoil our new English books. There are no less than ten of these conspirators, viz.: (1) the *author*, (2) the *publisher*, (3) the *printer*, (4) the *reader*, (5) the *compositor*, (6) the *pressman* or *machinist*, (7) the *paper-maker*, (8) the *ink-maker*, (9) the *bookbinder*, and (10) the *consumer*. In what proportion each one of the above sinners contributes towards the spoiling of the books which pass through his hands, it would be unfair of us to divulge, for it would simply be taking the spirit out of the little book. Let every representative of the combination buy a copy of it for himself, and if authors are thus taught to admit their 'ignorance,' publishers their 'fussiness' and their desire to cheapen and 'shoddy' literature; printers their carelessness and want of taste; binders their greed of 'shavings;' ink-makers their shoddy inks, which turn brown so soon, then Mr Stevens will have read them a very valuable lesson, and the consumer might hope for books like those of the good old times, before 'shoddy' paper, 'shoddy' ink, and 'shoddy' printing and publishing were invented."—*Publisher's Circular*, Jan. 15, 1885.

"'A handsome book and a new English book were once synonymous terms. Indeed, it used to be conceded the world over that the highest type of a new book was English. On level terms England could once well afford to stand comparison in book-making with any other country. Can she do so now?' The answer given by this intelligent and observant Anglo-American critic is, we regret to say, in the negative. The production of really fine books adapted to the honest requirements of the public is, Mr Stevens assures us, 'slowly but surely becoming one of England's lost fine arts.'

Mr Stevens speaks with an authority which no publisher can affect to ignore. He bases his opinions and statements partly upon long personal observation, and partly upon discussions, in many of which he participated; upon reports issued by the juries of the several great International Exhibitions since 1851; and, finally, upon the verdicts of the last three, held at Vienna, Philadelphia, and Paris, at which the best and latest books of all nations were subjected to the closest inspection of experts. He tells us frankly, as one of the jurors at Paris, in 1878, that each of his associates, almost without exception, 'felt and expressed his disappointment at the comparative quality of English exhibits in this class.' It cannot, we fear, be denied that, as regards the art of making up books, Great Britain is lagging in the race of progress, especially when contrasted with some other nations. What is meant and asserted by this accomplished and experienced critic is that modern English books are not of the average quality, as regards high art and skill in manufacture, which is found in some other countries. . . . Mr Stevens has no objection to cheap books; but he warns publishers that, in addition to being cheap, these productions need not be unsightly too. He reminds us that, with some honourable exceptions, there is a dearth at present in England of such publishers as Nicolas Janson, Aldus Romanus, Henry Quental, Henry and Robert Stephens, the Plantins, the Elzevirs, the Didots, Baskerville, Charles Whittingham, and William Pickering, 'all of whose books, cheap and dear, were constructed on the lines of truth and beauty, and are to-day acquired and preserved as things fair to see.'"—*Daily Telegraph*, Jan. 23, 1885.

"Mr Stevens treats his subject methodically as well as pungently; has distributed his evil-doers into ten categories, and lays his lash pretty impartially on the back of each. He does not forget to pay a tribute of respect to those who have done well, among whom he honourably distinguishes the late Mr William Pickering, as publisher, and the late Mr Charles Whittingham, as printer. He suggests remedies as he goes along, but the general remedy he proposes is nothing less than the establishing a school of typography, in which every disciple of these ten tribes shall study a recognized grammar of book manufacture. Then, he hopes, 'the art of book making will drift back into the practice of those same laws of proportion, taste, and workmanship so well settled and displayed in old manuscripts and old books, large and small, long before and long subsequent to the birth of typography.' The elegant little volume in which this sound doctrine is set forth, is published by the author's son, Mr H. N. Stevens, and teaches by example as well as by precept. The American publisher might learn much from it, if he would; among other things, not to send his volumes into the world without finis, colophon, or so much as a dash to signify that the end is come."—*New York Daily Tribune*, Jan. 26, 1885.